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Visit of Queen Victoria to the City of London.

NOVEMBER 9, 1837.

(Abridged from the Times.)

At the earliest dawn of day, the avenues leading to St. James's Park were crowded by pedestrians, all pressing towards Buckingham Palace; and long before the hour appointed for Her Majesty's departure for Guildhall, the park was densely studded by a numerous, respectable, and anxious body of Her Majesty's loyal subjects. The first movement which took place arose from the arrival of a vast body of the metropolitan police force, who were ranged along the line embracing the centre Mall, by which the Royal *cortège* was to pass. They were shortly afterwards followed by a squadron of the 12th Royal

Lancers, who also were stationed at intermediate distances along the line. The Guard of Honour, furnished from the Royal Horse Guards Blue, took up their position at the entrance of the centre Mall, at half past one o'clock. Precisely at two o'clock, the first carriage in the procession emerged from the triumphal arch, and in due course was followed by the royal state carriage.

It was not until the "line" of cavalcade had reached the corner of the Malborough House gardens that the procession could really be said to have formed, when it passed through the iron gates into Pall-mall in the following order:—

Mr. Lee,

The High Constable of the City of Westminster.

Detachment of Life Guards.

The Duchess of Kent and Attendants,

In her Royal Highness' Carriage, drawn by six Horses, with her proper escort of Life Guards.

The Duchess of Gloucester and Attendants,

In her Royal Highness' two carriages, each drawn by six Horses, with her proper escort of Life Guards.

The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge and Attendants,

In their Royal Highness' two Carriages, each drawn by six Horses, with their proper escort of Life Guards.

The Duke of Sussex and Attendants,

In his Royal Highness' Carriage, drawn by six Horses, with his proper escort of Life Guards.

HER MAJESTY'S CARRIAGES,

Each drawn by six Horses.

Two Grooms }
walking. }

The First Carriage,

Drawn by Six Grays.

{ Two Grooms
walking. }

conveying

Gentleman Usher of the Sword of State,

Gentleman Usher of the Privy Chamber,

Exon of the Yeomen of the Guard.

Two Grooms }
walking. }

The Second Carriage,

Drawn by Six Bays,

{ Two Grooms
walking. }

conveying

Equerry in Waiting,

Page of Honour in Waiting,

Groom in waiting,

Silver Stick.

Two Grooms }
walking. }

The Third Carriage,

Drawn by Six Bays,

{ Two Grooms
walking. }

conveying

Treasurer of the Household,

Clerk Marshal,

Vice-Chamberlain,

Controller of the Household.

Two Grooms }
walking. }

The Fourth Carriage,

Drawn by Six Bays.

{ Two Grooms
walking. }

conveying

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Lord in Waiting,
 Captain of the Yeomen of the Guard,
 Captain of the Gentlemen at Arms,
 Master of the Buck Hounds.

Two Grooms }
 walking. }

The Fifth Carriage,
 Drawn by Six Bays,
 conveying
 Maid of Honour,
 Bedchamber Woman,
 Karl Marshal,
 Gold Stick.

{ Two Grooms
 walking. }

Two Grooms }
 walking. }

The Sixth Carriage,
 Drawn by Six Blacks,
 conveying
 Lady of the Bedchamber,
 Maid of Honour in Waiting,
 Lord Steward,
 Lord Chamberlain,
 Yeomen of the Guard.

{ Two Grooms
 walking. }

Twelve Footmen,
 Four and Four.

Four Grooms }
 walking. }

THE STATE COACH,
 Drawn by Eight Cream-coloured Horses,

{ Four Grooms
 walking. }

Attended by a Yeoman of the Guard at each wheel, and two Footmen at each door,
 Conveying

THE QUEEN,

The Mistress of the Robes,
 The Master of the Horse.
 An escort of Life Guards.

The Foreign Ambassadors,

Each in a carriage and pair, followed by their respective suites. Also,

The Ministers of State: The Lord Chancellor, Viscount Melbourne, Lord John Russell, Viscount Palmerston, Lord Duncannon, Mr. Spring Rice, Viscount Howick, Sir J. C. Hobhouse, the Earl of Mulgrave, the Marquis of Lansdowne.

As soon as this part of the cavalcade had safely cleared the turning into Pall-mall (which, for the cream-coloured horses in the royal state carriage, was looked upon as that attended with the most danger throughout the whole of the route), it was joined by carriages containing the several Judges, the Duke of Wellington, Lord Ashburnham, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Mr. Grote. The Duke of Sutherland's carriage containing His Grace, and Viscount Morpeth, then brought up the rear. As the procession proceeded, it was joined by a very large number of carriages.

It may here be mentioned that the whole line of street through which the procession passed, was formed by the police, aided by the military.

The Royal cortege, on entering Pall-Mall, was received with loud and enthusiastic cheering, the various personages of illustrious birth, from the Queen downwards, acknowledging the passing compliment. The whole line of this street, together with the avenue connecting it with St. James's Park, was kept by a troop of the 12th Lancers.

Her Majesty was dressed in a splendid pink and silver check of silken manufacture,

with a succession of brilliant silver sprays. Her Majesty also wore a splendid, brilliant tiara, and carried a large bouquet of flowers in her right hand.

The Duchess of Sutherland was attired in a magnificent dress, composed of blue silk and silver.

The procession arrived opposite the statue at Charing-cross at 25 minutes after 2, and in rather more than fifteen minutes the entire of it had passed. The neighbouring streets had been thronged during the whole morning with eager passengers, and by 2 o'clock the crowd became very dense. The procession passed along a gravel roadway, laid down immediately in front of the inclosed pace before the National Gallery; and an immense multitude had collected in the open ground north of the statue.

About a quarter to 3 o'clock, the shouts of the immense crowds which lined the streets in those parts of the Strand in the vicinity of Charing-cross and the Adelphi, announced the approach of the royal cavalcade to such of her Majesty's lieges as had stationed themselves near Somerset-house and King's College. In no part of the line of road through which the procession passed was exhibited

more of anxiety to witness it than in this quarter. Taking King's College as the centre point, as far as the eye could reach on either side, the streets were thronged by dense masses of human beings, and the houses crowded with eager spectators. Not content with the accommodation which the several floors afforded, every kind of projection which seemed to promise support for the foot was put in requisition. The very house-tops were loaded. Nor was there any sparing of expense in the decoration of the houses. Devices of every description, in coloured lamps and transparencies, wreathed with laurel, arrested the gazer in every direction.

A range of scaffolding was erected within the yard attached to St. Mary's Church, and within its precincts were accommodated the students of King's College and a considerable number of other spectators, as well as the children educated at the charity schools of the parish. On the royal carriage reaching the spot, the charity children commenced singing "God save the Queen," while the Royal standard was hoisted. The carriages of the Royal Family, escorted by Life Guards, passed onward at a quick walk. The Duchess of Kent, who, as will have been seen, led the procession, was loudly cheered, and the Duke of Cambridge and the Duke of Sussex were received with similar honours. But when the state coach conveying the Queen herself came in sight, the enthusiasm of the people, which had hitherto been kept within something like moderation, burst all bounds, and seemed to amount to a very frenzy. The gentlemen shouted and waved their hats; the ladies smiled, and waved their handkerchiefs; and young and old, gentle and simple, seemed to vie with one another in the expression of their loyalty and regard. Her Majesty, who looked in excellent health and spirits, acknowledged the greetings of her affectionate subjects in the most gracious manner.

Up to 2 o'clock there had been a constant succession of aldermen arriving in their carriages, with their grooms and beadles, at Temple Bar. There they dismounted, and entered Child's banking-house. Admission had also been given to the carriages of the guests invited through Temple-bar. When the road was cleared, a procession was seen advancing from Ludgate-hill, consisting of the state carriages of the Sheriffs, the late Lord Mayor, and the present Lord Mayor, containing their owners, their ladies, and their regular officers of state. At Temple-bar the Lord Mayor and his brother magistrates alighted from their carriages, which were immediately turned round, and driven with their fair burdens to the Guildhall. The Lord Mayor and Sheriffs then joined the

Aldermen in Child's banking-house. After a short deliberation, they sailed forth into Fleet-street, and marching with much state to the Middle Temple-gate, retired within its walls, to mount the horses provided for them. Another short pause elapsed, and then each civic cavalier returned mounted on a charger managed by his groom, and not by himself. It was some time before they could be ranged in the order laid down in the printed programme, and before it could be effected one of the horses, we did not see how it was effected, was unprovided with a rider. The Aldermen wore their robes and chains, and carried white wands in their hands, which two or three of them had the courage to use as whips. After the Aldermen had lined the street on either side close to the bar, the barriers were closed, nor were they opened again until the head of the royal cortege arrived at the gates, at half-past 2 o'clock.

A shout of gratulation from the Strand side of Temple-bar then announced to the citizens the arrival of the Duchess of Kent. It was prolonged by those on the Fleet-street side of the Bar, and the Royal lady moved on cheered by thousands of her daughter's loyal subjects. The carriages of the Duchess of Gloucester, of the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge, and of the Duke of Sussex, each followed by their proper escort of Life Guards, came next. Then followed the six of her Majesty's carriages, containing the high officers of her household. After these carriages had passed along, the Lord Mayor dismounted, and taking the city sword of state in his hand, stood on the south side of Fleet-street, immediately opposite the shop door of Mr. Clack, awaiting the entrance of her Majesty. As soon as the royal state carriage came within the Bar it was stopped. The Lord Mayor advanced to the side of the carriage, and at that moment the first drops of rain that had fallen during the day came pattering down upon his head. His Lordship tendered to her Majesty the city sword of state, which she immediately returned with a gracious announcement that it could not be lodged in safer hands. Her demennour, in saying these few words, has been described as most graceful and dignified. (*This scene is illustrated in the Number published with the present sheet.*) The Lord Mayor, by her Majesty's permission, then mounted his horse, which was waiting for him at the Bar, and, receiving the city sword of state from his swordbearer, held it aloft before him, and took his place immediately before his Sovereign. Alderman Wood, and four other aldermen, who stayed by the Lord Mayor during this ceremony, then joined the city procession, which advanced along Fleet-street in the following order:—

THE CITY MARSHAL,
On Horseback.

MEMBERS OF THE COURT OF COMMON COUNCIL.

in their Mazarine Gowns, on Horseback, each with an Attendant.

James Anderton, Esq.
Joshua Thomas Bedford, Esq.
William Hunter, Esq.

Richard Dixon, Esq.
William Collingwood, Esq.
W. A. Peacock, Esq. (Dep.)

SHERIFFS.

in their Scarlet Gowns and Chains, on Horseback, each attended by a Sergeant and a Groom.

Moses Montefiore, Esq.

George Carroll, Esq.

ALDERMEN.

In their Scarlet Gowns, those passed the Chair in their Chains, on Horseback, | each attended by a Beadle and a Groom.

John Humphery, Esq., M. P.
Thomas Wood, Esq.
W. T. Copeland, Esq., M. P.
Charles Farebrother, Esq.
Sir John Key, Bart.
Matthias Prime Lucas, Esq.
Sir William Heygate, Bart.
James White, Esq.

James Harmer, Esq.
Henry Winchester, Esq.
Sir Peter Laurie.
W. Thompson, Esq., M. P.
William Venables, Esq.
Matthew Wood, Esq., M. P.
Sir Claudius S. Hunter, Bart.

Three Footmen in }
State Liveries. }
The Common Crier
on Horseback,
Samuel Beddome, Esq.,
Carrying the City Mace.

Rt. Hon. T. Kelly,
late Lord Mayor.

{ Three Footmen in
State Liveries.
The Swordbearer
on Horseback,
Charles William Hick, Esq.,
With the Cap of Maintenance.

Three Footmen }
in }
State Liveries. }

THE LORD MAYOR,
The Rt. Hon. John Cowan,
In a Crimson Velvet Robe
And Collar of SS,
On Horseback,

{ Three Footmen
in
State Liveries.

Bearing the City Sword of State immediately before
HER MAJESTY.

Carriages of the Nobility and Gentry.

After the procession was thus re-formed, Her Majesty's carriage again began to move, and this being communicated by signal to the artillery, there was a firing of guns at a distance for several minutes. At the same time, the people burst into the most enthusiastic cheering we ever heard:—

"You would have thought the very windows spoke,
So many greedy looks of young and old
Through casements darted their desiring eyes
Upon her visage, and that all the walls
With painted imagery had said at once—
Jesu preserve thee! Welcome, lovely Queen!"

Opposite Chancery Lane there was a slight stop in the movement of the procession, and just then the cheering seemed for a moment to ebb; but it soon flowed on again with the same glad and buoyant spirit which had distinguished the whole day. Her Majesty was apparently much affected by it, and seemed absolutely transfixed with admiration of the world of life and loyalty which she saw before her. The same demonstrations of affectionate regard were exhibited towards Her Majesty as she passed by the churches of St. Dunstan and St. Bride.

The procession continued its way amidst the most hearty greetings through Fleet-street and Ludgate-hill, which, as was the

whole line of road, was covered with fresh gravel for the occasion.

St. Paul's Churchyard was the next point of the greatest attraction along the whole line of the procession. Not only was the churchyard filled with men, women, and children; but wherever the eye fell was to be seen an immense multitude, while every avenue leading to the place was choked up by people struggling to advance or recede, and unable to do either. A number of booths or hustings were erected within the inclosed space surrounding the cathedral for the accommodation of the members of the different city companies. A commodious and well-built hustings was also erected for the reception of the boys of Christ's Hospital. At a few minutes before three o'clock, the first carriage of the Royal Procession passed by the cathedral; the other carriages followed, and on reaching St. Paul's churchyard, the royal carriage stopped in the middle of the road opposite the cathedral gate, from which a platform was wheeled out; and the senior scholar of Christ's Hospital, (Frederick Giffard Nash, a gentlemanly youth,) accompanied by the Rev. Edward Rice, the head master, and Mr. R. H. Pigeon, the treasurer, advanced to the

carriage door and the youth delivered a congratulatory address to Her Majesty,* in a modest and becoming manner, the speaker bowing respectfully whenever Her Majesty's name was mentioned, and raising both hands in form of prayer while pronouncing the closing sentence. At its conclusion, the Queen bowed and smiled in token of her satisfaction; the young speaker then handed a copy of the address, beautifully written on vellum to Her Majesty, who graciously accepted it: and the Royal carriage moved on, after hearing the first verse of "God save the Queen," which was sung by the children belonging to Christ's Hospital, accompanied by trumpets and by a great part of the assembled crowd. At this moment, the spectacle was extremely pleasing. The countless multitude giving expression to their enthusiasm in the loudest acclamations of joy—the surrounding houses covered with ornaments intended for illumination during the night, but so managed as to form very pretty decorations in the day—the booths decked with festoons and draperies, and surmounted by the splendid armorial bearings and banners of the different city companies—the gay and martial appearance of the troops, extending along the line of the procession, and lost at last in the distance and the mist,—all formed a brilliant *tout ensemble*.

Cheapside presented an appearance equal in splendour and animation to the rest of the route, and from its contiguity to Guildhall, the destination of the grand *cortège*, was a much coveted position.

As the hour of 3 o'clock approached, the crowds became more and more dense and uncomfortable. The civic procession passed slowly round into King-street; next followed the Royal procession, in tolerable order; but the rain, which had now begun to descend rather smartly, occasioned much disappointment to the spectators; many of the carriages were closed in consequence. Every eye was directed to the state coach in which her Majesty rode, and the windows teemed with ladies, who waved their handkerchiefs, while the multitude shouted, and the Queen repeatedly bowed in reply to the enthusiastic greetings of her subjects.—The Cabinet Ministers were not recognised; but the Duke of Wellington, however, was hailed with hearty cheers as he turned out of Cheapside into King-street. The cavalcade having disappeared, the populace turned their faces hither and thither; but we believe that no accident occurred in this locality.

* It appears, that by ancient custom, the institution of Christ's Hospital possesses the privilege of addressing the Sovereign on the occasion of his coming into the city, to honour the corporation of London by partaking of their hospitality: consequently, they claimed the enjoyment of that privilege on the present occasion.

The Artillery Company were stationed in King-street, and two sentinels were posted at the grand entrance of Guildhall, the great body of the corps forming on the west side of the street. By half-past 3 o'clock, her Majesty had descended from the state-carriage at the Hall-door. The number of persons assembled at this part of the line was comparatively few, wherefore there was little of the enthusiasm which marked the Royal progress when the assemblage was greater; but the reception of the Queen in King-street was marked by every manifestation of loyalty.

THE ROYAL BANQUET.

The Hall was divided into two parts by the passage leading to the Court of Aldermen and Council-chamber: the eastern containing the throne, the Royal table (which stretched across, and was raised some four or five feet above the general level), and four other tables, at which were seated the higher civic authorities, the Ministers of State, Ambassadors, and other distinguished guests. The west portion of the hall was occupied by six tables, allotted to Common-councilmen, their wives, or friends.

The throne, the principal feature at the eastern end, was gorgeous, yet chaste and elegant. Its massive, gilt cornices were in the style of Louis Quatorze branching into palms, supporting a shield with the Royal ciphers "V.R." intersected by cornucopias in the centre supporting the imperial crown. The draperies, of rich crimson velvet, were profusely ornamented with gold fringe and tassels; the interior of the canopy (also crimson velvet) was relieved by ornaments in silver, and a radiated oval of white satin, with golden rays. The back was fluted in white satin, enriched with the Royal Arms in burnished gold.

The state chair appropriated for Her Majesty under this princely canopy was placed in immediate proximity to the Royal table; its covering was also rich crimson velvet, with the Royal arms, and crown, with the rose, thistle, and shamrock tastefully interwreathed. The platform on which the throne and Royal table stood was covered with crimson and gold Brussels carpeting, as also the centre avenue of the hall, up which Her Majesty and Royal suite were led to the cross table. The other parts of the flooring of the hall, and the seats of all the chairs, were covered with crimson cloth. At each end of the building the walls were covered with immense plates of looking-glass. The window at the eastern end of the hall, above the throne, having been removed, a gigantic, wooden framework was substituted, on which was erected a gorgeous piece of gas illumination. To prevent any accident that might occur by the woodwork taking fire on which the device was fixed, the whole was completely

lined with sheets of iron. Above the mouldings of the windows, and over the city arms, waved the Royal Standard and the Union Jack. Above was the Royal ciphers "V.R." in very large characters, surmounted by the appropriate word "Welcome," the whole being encircled by an immense wreath of laurel, which terminated at the lower extremity of the framework with the rose, thistle, and shamrock. Over the clock at the eastern end, and reaching nearly the whole breadth of the hall, with Gog and Magog on the right and left, was placed an immense stack of armour, with upwards of thirty furled flags most tastefully arranged to form an appropriate back ground. Immediately above was the magnificently radiated star of the Order of the Garter, surrounded with crimson vatican drapery, and the scroll "God save the Queen," entirely composed of cut glass, which when lit up, seemed literally one continuous blaze of diamonds. The whole was surmounted by the imperial crown and wreaths of laurel, intermingled with the rose, thistle, and shamrock, covering the entire outline of the window. The former dimensions of the musicians' gallery, immediately above the hall entrance, had been considerably enlarged and tastefully decorated with scarlet silk. The corresponding gallery on the opposite side was occupied by three stacks of armour, which produced on the whole a peculiarly imposing effect. Complete coats of mail were likewise suspended from other parts of the hall; two knights clad in bright panoply, complete, guarded the entrance of the hall and Council chamber, and conspired with the dazzling pomp and grandeur of the scene to beget the thought that "the age of chivalry" had not, according to a great authority, "vanished for ever."

Two semi-globular and magnificently lustrous chandeliers, constructed expressly for the occasion, measuring nearly forty feet in circumference, were suspended from the roof, bearing the royal ciphers V. R., the crown, rose, thistle, and shamrock. Their effect, when lighted up, from the variegated and most resplendent style of each alternate compartment, was brilliant in the extreme. Gas pipes, with innumerable burning jets, representing the tasteful folds of drapery, covered the sides of the hall. The rich and gorgeous dresses of the ladies, the dazzling brilliancy of their ornamental jewellery, and the graceful waving of their plumes, which formed their only head-dress, together with the more fantastic, but not less costly and glittering, habiliments of the gentlemen in full court costume, contributed greatly to the imposing and effective magnificence of the scene.

The Council-chamber was fitted up for the Queen's reception-room, and hung throughout with crimson fluted cloth, finished with gold mouldings, and festoons of red and white

flowers. At the lower end were three large plates of pier glass, with elegant gilt tables, vases, and other ornaments. In the centre was a brilliant or-moulu and steel-mounted gas lustre, and four chandeliers illuminated the corners of the chamber. The room was covered with a rich Brussels carpet, with white medallions and chintz colouring. Upon the platform stood a chair of state splendidly gilt, and covered with crimson velvet. In this apartment there was no other chair or seat of any kind.

Adjoining the Council-chamber or Queen's reception-room was a lobby, joining that apartment to the Court of Aldermen. It was fluted with rose-colour and white, ornamented with festoons of drapery-ropes, and carpeted to correspond with the Queen's reception-room. In the centre was a solid silver chandelier.

The room appropriated to the business of the Court of Aldermen was fitted up as Her Majesty's retiring room. It was beautifully decorated with fluting ornamented with festoons of rope. The floor was covered with a crimson and gold carpet, and the curtains were of striped crimson silk. The cornices were thickly gilt, and the apartment was lighted up with a cut glass chandelier. In the recess was a magnificent toilet table covered with white satin, embroidered with the initials "V. R." a crown and wreath in gold, and looped with gold silk rope and tassels.

In this private apartment of Her Majesty were three of the splendid chairs which decorated the state apartments of George IV., and other chairs, richly gilt. It was also furnished with console tables with marble tops, and a marqueterie centre table and cabriolet chairs and sofas, with magnificently embroidered seats, each chair varying from the others. There was also an ottoman fitted up under the stained glass windows, which were partially seen with the names of the aldermen upon them.

The Council-chamber lobby was richly carpeted, and hung with crimson vatican drapery. It was lighted with a pair of rich or-moulu lamps, and refreshed with a profusion of plants. Leading to this lobby is a narrow, and extremely unsightly passage, which was fitted up as a tent, with crimson and white drapery.

The Old Council-chamber, to the left of the Queen's retiring-room, or Court of Aldermen, was fitted up for Her Majesty's suite, and draped with crimson cloth. The Reading-room, Chamberlain's office, and other apartments were also splendidly fitted up for the occasion.

At half-past three o'clock, it was announced in the hall that the procession was approaching, and the acclamations outside confirmed the report. The Lady Mayoress

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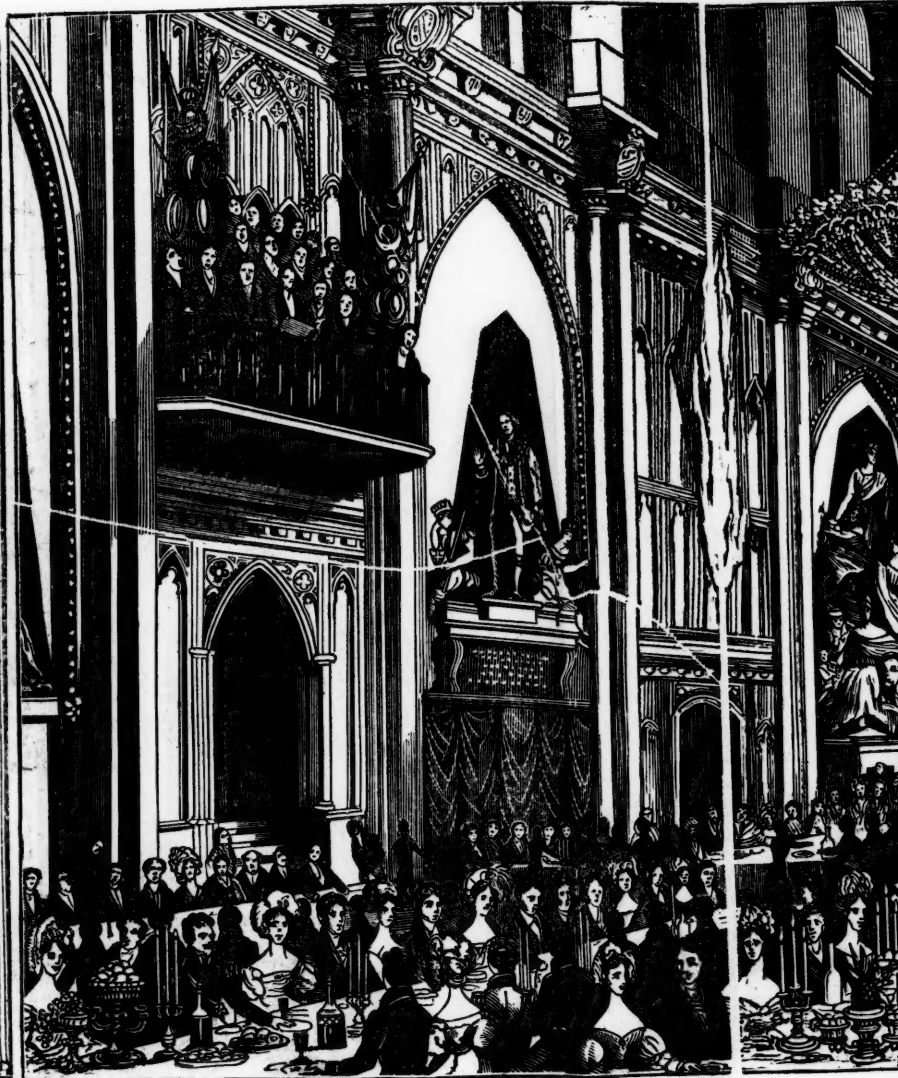
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THE BA

TO THE CITY OF LONDON, NOVEMBER 9, 1837.



THE BANQUET IN GUILDHALL.



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and the members of the committee immediately proceeded to the porch to receive the Queen. The several members of the procession entered the hall in the order in which they had passed through the streets, and Her Majesty, who seemed delighted at the reception she had met with from the assembled multitude in the approaches to Guildhall, was received, as etiquette would have it, in solemn and most respectful silence, the only demonstration of enthusiasm being confined to the performance of the National Anthem.

The Queen preceded by the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, Aldermen, Sheriffs, and members of the entertainment Committee, advanced through the centre of the hall, and up the steps leading to the Council-chamber, which was fitted up as her Majesty's drawing-room. At the door of the Queen's retiring room, the Lord Chamberlain, who had attended her Majesty, left her with the Duchess of Kent, the Duchess of Gloucester, and the Duchess of Cambridge. Her Majesty remained in her retiring chamber about twenty minutes, and in the mean time the Royal Dukes, the Ministers of State, the Judges and the principal nobility, were introduced to the drawing-room. When her Majesty entered the drawing-room, she took her seat, and was surrounded by the splendid company. It would be impossible to conceive any scene more magnificent than that which now presented itself, had the banquet spectacle not followed.

While her Majesty was thus surrounded,

The Recorder, accompanied by the Lord Mayor, the Aldermen, Sheriffs, and the Chairman, and a Deputation of the Committee, advanced, and the Recorder read a suitable address; to which, her Majesty returned a most gracious reply.

Her Majesty was then graciously pleased to order letters-patent to be made out, conferring the honour of baronetcy on the Lord Mayor, and of knighthood on the two Sheriffs, John Carroll, and Moses Montefiore, Esqrs., the latter gentleman being the first Jew that ever was knighted, at least as they said in the hall.

The Lord Mayor then introduced the Aldermen, and afterwards their ladies, who kissed hands. After which her Majesty returned to the retiring chamber with the Duchesses of Kent, Cambridge, and Gloucester, with the same ceremony as had been observed at her entrance.

Her Majesty remained in the retiring room about half an hour. The nobility, the foreign ambassadors, the judges, and other guests who had the privilege of *entré* into the drawing room, then proceeded to the hall, and took their seats at the banquet-tables.

At 5 o'clock Mr. Bleadon, who provided this most splendid entertainment, announced

to the committee that the banquet was ready. The chairman of the committee immediately proceeded to the Queen's retiring-room, and, through the Lord Chamberlain, announced that all the preparations were complete.

At 20 minutes after 5, the Queen descended to the Hall, preceded by the Lord Mayor, in his entertaining robes, the Lady Mayoress, and the Royal Family, and was conducted in respectful silence by the Lord Chamberlain (the Marquis Conyngham) to the throne, the band playing "O! the roast beef of old England!" Her Majesty wore a rich pink satin dress, ornamented with gold and silver; a splendid pearl necklace, diamond earrings, and a costly tiara of brilliants. Her Majesty appeared delighted with the grandeur of the scene.

The Lord Mayor, the Lady Mayoress, and six senior Aldermen, attended to wait upon her Majesty, but on reaching the throne her Majesty immediately commanded the Lord Mayor, the Lady Mayoress, &c., to take their seats.

The following is a correct list of the distinguished guests at

THE ROYAL TABLE.

THE QUEEN IN THE CENTRE.

ON THE RIGHT.

The Duke of Sussex.
The Duchess of Gloucester.
The Duchess of Cambridge.
The Prince George of Cambridge.
The Duchess of Sutherland.

ON THE LEFT.

The Duke of Cambridge.
The Duchess of Kent.
The Princess Augusta of Cambridge.
The Countess of Mulgrave.
The Lord Mayor, and the Lady Mayoress, sat at the principal Guests' Table.

The Lord Mayor's Chaplain having said grace, the business of the dinner commenced.

During the dinner the orchestra played with great spirit. Her Majesty frequently expressed her gratification at the splendour which surrounded her, and the intimation was conveyed to the committee in terms which adequately rewarded them for all their labours and anxieties during the preparations.

Grace after dinner, "*Non nobis, Domine, sed nomini tuo da gloriam,*" was then sung. After a flourish of trumpets, the common crier immediately advanced into the middle of the hall, and said, "The Right Hon. the Lord Mayor gives the health of our Most Gracious Sovereign Queen Victoria." The company simultaneously rose, and drank the toast with boundless enthusiasm. "God save the Queen" was then sung.

After which her Majesty rose and bowed

to the company several times. The common crier then said—"Her Majesty gives 'The Lord Mayor and prosperity to the City of London.'" The toast was received with acclamation. After a short interval, the common crier announced the last toast in the following manner:—"The Right Hon. the Lord Mayor gives 'The Royal Family.'" The toast was received with much enthusiasm.

Several pieces of music were also performed during the evening.

At twenty minutes past 8 o'clock, the Queen retired from the hall to the drawing-room, where she was served with coffee in "splendid" gold service.

At half-past 8 o'clock, her Majesty's carriage was announced, and she took leave of her faithful and delighted citizens of London, after having warmly expressed the gratification she felt at their most sumptuous entertainment.

The whole arrangements were so complete that not the slightest confusion or perplexity occurred during the whole of the day.

The plate in the hall (all at the Queen's table being gold) was estimated at nearly 400,000*l*.

The musical department was under the direction of Sir G. Smart.

HER MAJESTY'S RETURN.

THE state carriages arrived at St. James's Palace, (on their return from Guildhall, at half-past four o'clock. As they passed through the gates the cream-coloured horses presented an appearance of considerable fatigue, and, as may be easily imagined, did not bear their customary look of cleanliness.

At seven o'clock, ten of Her Majesty's dress carriages, each drawn by a pair of horses only, set out from the Royal stables for the purpose of bringing home the illustrious party, and the clock of the Palace had chimed half-past nine ere they repassed on their way to the Royal residence.

The Royal *cortège* returned by the same route as that taken in the morning, and in precisely the same rotation, Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent being the first in the cavalcade; with the exception that the Sovereign's carriage, instead of being the last in the train, was followed by two carriages containing Her Majesty's Pages.

Her Majesty, on reaching her apartments in Buckingham Palace, is understood to have expressed herself as highly gratified with the universal demonstration of public feeling which had been exhibited throughout the day, and the strong evidence of

loyalty borne towards the Sovereign by the continuous and brilliant illuminations through which she passed in her progress homewards.

When Her Majesty was passing from her dressing or retiring apartment into the hall, in going to her carriage, the Ministers and Judges, and other persons of rank, made an avenue from the steps leading to the drawing-room, and were individually recognised by Her Majesty in the most affable manner. Amongst them stood the Duke of Wellington who was conversing with some of the members of the corporation upon the skill displayed in the arrangements; one of the Common Councilmen, observing that the Duke was not in the foremost rank of those who lined the avenue, stepped aside to make room for his Grace, and respectfully asked him to take the situation. "No," said the Duke, with much kindness of manner, "I frequently have the honour of seeing her Majesty, and I think it but fair to let others have the high gratification here." Although his Grace had been at the hall on all the great entertainment occasions of the last quarter of a century, he confessed that he never beheld any banquet got up with such splendour and taste.

The Duke of Cambridge was heard to express himself equally surprised and delighted at the scene to Lord Foley, the Captain of the Gentlemen at Arms, who attended as the Body Guard to the Queen; and the Duke of Sussex repeatedly adverted to the subject in the course of the evening. Lord Mulgrave officially, we understood, informed the members of the Committee that the Queen felt the highest gratification at the preparations which had been made for her reception, and which were in every point of view most complete. As for the great majority of the company—so great an impression did the sweet demeanour of a lovely girl upon the throne make upon them, that her Majesty's departure was a signal for the final close of the entertainment, and they left the hall as soon as their servants could bring up their carriages to the porch.

A diamond ornament of great value fell from the magnificent dress of her Majesty, as she alighted from her carriage at Guildhall. The ornament was broken to pieces, and the jewels dispersed in different directions. It is gratifying to be able to state, that through the diligence and integrity of the persons in attendance on the spot, every diamond was discovered and restored in the course of the evening.

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